

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An aqueous dispersion ~~with a pH of from 2 to 7~~, comprising
  - (A) at least one swellable polymer and/or oligomer containing at least one functional group that is at least one of an anionic functional group, and/or a potentially anionic functional group, and/or a nonionic hydrophilic functional groups,
  - (B) surface-modified, cationically stabilized, inorganic nanoparticles of at least one kind,
  - (C) at least one compound selected from the group consisting of amphiphiles and organic compounds which are capable of forming chelate ligands, and
  - (D) at least one crosslinking agent,wherein the aqueous dispersion has a pH of from 2 to 7.
2. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 1, wherein the at least one polymers and/or oligomers (A) ~~are selected from the group consisting of polymers and oligomers which contains~~ anionic and/or potentially anionic functional groups and ~~have~~has, at a pH of from 2 to 7, an electrophoretic mobility  $\leq -0.5$  ( $\mu\text{m/s}$ )/(V/cm).
3. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the at least one polymers and/or oligomers (A) contains at least one reactive functional group (S) selected from the group consisting of (S1) reactive functional groups which contain at least one bond which can be activated with actinic radiation and/or (S2) reactive functional groups which are able to undergo reactions with groups of their own kind (~~“with themselves”~~) and/or with complementary reactive functional groups (S2).
4. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 3, wherein the reactive functional groups (S2) that are complementary to the reactive functional groups (S2) of the at least one polymer and/or oligomer (A) are present in the surface-modified nanoparticles (B), in the amphiphile ~~(C)~~, and/or in the at least one crosslinking agent (D).

5. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 4, wherein the inorganic nanoparticles (B) are selected from the group consisting of main group and transition group metals and their compounds.
6. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 5, wherein the main group and transition group metals are selected from the group consisting of metals of main groups three, metals of main group four, metals of main group to five, metals of transition groups three, metals of transition group four, metals of transition group five, metals of transition group to six, ~~and also~~ metals of group one, ~~and~~ metals of group two of the periodic system of the elements, and the lanthanides.
7. (Original) The aqueous dispersion of claim 6, wherein the metals are selected from the group consisting of boron, aluminum, gallium, silicon, germanium, tin, arsenic, antimony, silver, zinc, titanium, zirconium, hafnium, vanadium, niobium, tantalum, molybdenum, tungsten, and cerium.
8. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 7, wherein the nanoparticles (B) are modified with at least one compound of the general formula I:



in which the indices and variables have the following meanings:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| S       | is a reactive functional group;                                   |
| L       | is an at least divalent organic linking group;                    |
| H       | is a hydrolyzable monovalent group or a hydrolyzable atom;        |
| M       | is a divalent to hexavalent main group or transition group metal; |
| R       | is a monovalent organic radical;                                  |
| o       | is an integer from 1 to 5;  |
| m+n+p   | is an integer from 2 to 6;  |
| p       | is an integer from 1 to 6;  |
| m and n | are zero or an integer from 1 to 5.                               |

9. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 8, wherein the at least one polymer and/or oligomer (A) contains at least one ~~the~~ reactive functional group S is selected from the group consisting of (S1) reactive functional groups which contain at least one bond which can be activated with actinic radiation and (S2) reactive

functional groups which undergo reactions with groups of their own kind (~~“with themselves”~~) and/or with complementary reactive functional groups.

10. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 9, wherein the reactive functional groups (~~S2~~) that are complementary to the reactive functional groups (S2) ~~of the compounds~~ are present in the at least one polymer and/or oligomer (A), in the amphiphile (~~C~~), and/or in the at least one crosslinking agent (D).
11. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 10~~, wherein the amphiphile (~~C~~) is selected from the group consisting of monoalcohols and aliphatic polyols.
12. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 11, wherein the monoalcohols (~~C~~) are selected from the group consisting of monoalcohols having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms in the molecule, and the aliphatic polyols (~~C~~) are selected from the group consisting of diols having from 3 to 12 carbon atoms in the molecule.
13. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein the organic compounds (~~C~~) which form chelate ligands are selected from the group consisting of compounds containing at least two functional groups which are able to coordinate with metal atoms or metal ions.
14. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 13~~, wherein the at least one crosslinking agent (D) contains at least one reactive functional groups (S2) which ~~are~~ is able to undergo reactions with at least one complementary reactive functional groups (S2) present in the at least one polymer and/or oligomer (A), on the surface-modified nanoparticles (B), and/or in the amphiphile (~~C~~).
15. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 14, wherein the at least one reactive functional groups (~~S2~~) of the at least one crosslinking agents (D) ~~are~~ is selected from the group consisting of N-methylol groups, N-methylol ether groups, and alkoxycarbonylamino groups.

16. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 15, wherein the at least one crosslinking agent (D) is selected from the group consisting of amino resins and tris(alkoxycarbonylamino)triazines.
17. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 16, wherein the amino resins ~~are selected from the group of the~~comprise melamine-formaldehyde resins.
18. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 2 to 17,~~ wherein ~~the~~when complementary reactive functional groups ~~(S2) of~~are present in the at least one polymer and/or oligomer (A) and/or ~~of the amphiphile (C)~~they are hydroxyl groups.
19. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 18,~~ further comprising at least one pigment (E).
20. (Currently Amended) The aqueous dispersion of claim 19, wherein the pigment (E) is selected from the group consisting of color pigments, optical effect pigments, electrically conductive pigments, magnetic pigments, magnetically shielding pigments, fluorescent pigments, phosphorescent pigments, corrosion inhibitor pigments, ~~and~~ extender pigments, and ~~also~~ pigments which have at least two of these properties.
21. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing ~~an~~the aqueous dispersion ~~as claimed in any of claims 1 to 20, which comprises~~comprising dispersing
- (B) the surface-modified, cationically stabilized, inorganic nanoparticles of at least one kind,
  - (C) the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of amphiphiles and organic compounds which are capable of forming chelate ligands, and
  - (D) the at least one crosslinking agent, and ~~also, where appropriate,~~
  - (E) optionally, at least one pigment
- in an aqueous dispersion of the at least one swellable polymer and/or oligomer ~~containing anionic and/or potentially anionic and/or nonionic hydrophilic functional groups,~~ and homogenizing the resulting mixture.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of~~A method comprising applying the aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 20 and the dispersion produced according to the method of claim 21 for painting or~~ to a substrate and forming one of a coating for a motor vehicle ~~bodies~~body ~~and/or parts thereof, the interior and exterior of motor vehicles,~~ a coating for the~~an~~ interior and/or exterior of a buildings, a coating for a doors, a coating for a windows, ~~and~~ a coating for furniture, ~~in~~an industrial coating, ~~for the~~a coating ~~offor~~ plastics parts, especially transparent plastics parts, ~~small parts,~~ a coating for a coils, a coating for a containers, a coating for an electrical components, ~~and~~ a coating for white goods, ~~and also for the~~or a coating offor hollow glassware.
23. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of~~A method comprising applying the aqueous dispersion ~~of any of claims 1 to 20 and the dispersion produced according to the method of claim 21 for producing~~to a substrate as a moldings and/or as a self-supporting films.